Construction of garrages on 'No man's land' by Reserve Bank of India agency in Sarojini Nagar

1335. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some type 'C' residential quarters in Sarojini Nagar have been allotted to Reserve Bank of India Staff;

(b) whether these quarters are being maintained by their own agency;

(c) if so, what is the total number of such quarters and the number of quarters maintained by the C.P.W.D.;

(d) whether Government are aware that all the type 'C' quarters in Sarojini Nagar were constructed at the same time;

(e) whether it is also a fact that recently garrages have been constructed on 'No Man's land' for the quarters maintained by R. B. I. agency;

(f) if so, what are the reasons for which no such garrages have been constructed by C.P.W.D. for quarters maintained by them; and

(g) whether Government are aware that the quality of quarters maintained by R.B.I. agency is far better than the quality of quarters maintained by C.P.W.D.; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India is having 320 quarters maintaining it themselves whereas CPWD is maintaining 3791 quarters in this area.

(d) The construction of the type 'C' quarters by the CPWD were under-taken at the same time.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) As per norms for General Pool accommodation no garrages are admissible for these quarters.

(g) Norms and specifications of maintenance adopted by Reserve Bank of India are different from those adopted by CPWD. Any comparison would, therefor, be unrealistic.

1336. [*Transferred to the 26th March 1990*].

Status of Industry to agriculture

1337. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are committed that agriculture would be treated as an industry and remunerative prices would be given to all farm commodities throughout the country;

(b) what are Government's policy/guidelines towards the agriculture and agricultural community as a whole; and

(c) by when agriculture would be treated as an industry and what are the plans thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Government have constituted a High-Powered Committee to examine *Inter-alia* the feasibility/desirability of declaring agriculture as an industry or in the alternative treating agriculture on par with industry for purposes of granting suitable facilities/concessions.

Presently procurement/minimum support prices are fixed by the Government for major agricultural commodities and extension of coverage to other agricultural commodities is considered appropriately as and when required. Price support operations are also organised to ensure that the farmers get the prices fixed by the Government. These operations are progressively expanded to benefit the farmers and the Government's endeavour is to extend the same to as many areas as possible.

An expert committee is already examining the methodology for estimation of cost of production required for determination of procurement/minimum support prices, the terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors and any other measures required to improve the remunerativeness of crop production.

(b) Government's policy aims at sustainable and diversified development of agriculture with emphasis on optimisation of production, removal of imbalances and creation of employment thereby ensuring the interests of all sections of the agricultural community.

The Government have constituted a Standing Advisory Committee consisting of eminent representatives of the farming community to assist and advise the Government on a continuing basis in the formulation and implementation of the agricultural policy.

(c) The High-Powered Committee may submit an interim report in two month's time and its final report within a period of six months.

Supply of goods to New Super Cooperative Stores without cheque clearance by NCCF

1338. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Manager (CC&MER) in NCCF, Delhi Branch has recently supplied goods worth Rs. 50,000/- to New Super Cooperative Store without waiting for cheque being cleared;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Officer while working in Chandigarh Branch in 1986-87, had similarly supplied Confiscated Goods worth Rs. 80,000/- on credit to a Cooperative Society without the approval of the competent authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are serious allegations of corruption and of showing undue favours to 3 Cooperative Stores in the sale of Confiscated Goods in Delhi Branch against the said officer;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Internal Audit, NCCF, has recently found the said Officer responsible for loss of about Rs. 12 lacs in purchase of coal without any disposal prospects and loss of Rs. 9.22 lacs in supply of Handloom product to Punjab Federation without payment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken against the involved Assistant Manager?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The NCCF are investigating into the matter.

(d) The Assistant Manager concerned is one Among the other officers who had handled the case relating to purchase of Coal. The loss, if any could be known only when all the stock is disposed off. However, against the total expenses of Rs. 9.76 lakhs incurred in the handling of Coal, an amount of Rs. 9.27 lakhs has been realised as sale proceeds by the disposal of 1039 MTs. NCCF are taking action to dispose of the balance stocks of 280 MTs of Coal valued at Rs. 2.44 lakhs (Approx.). As regards the supply of handloom products worth Rs. 9.22 lakhs to Punjab Federation which were affected against indent, the NCCF have yet to receive the payment. The matter is being pursued.

(e) Action could be initiated by the NCCF only after the completion of investigations.

Daily wagers employed in Public Sectors

1339. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of daily wagers currently employed in Government and Public Sector Organisations;

(b) the number of daily wagers who initially joined these organisations more than two years ago; and

(c) whether there is a uniform policy for the regularisation of daily paid workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The information is not being maintained by the Ministry of Labour.